



TEXOMA ALLIANCE To STOP ABUSE

Working Together To End Family Violence In Our Community

TASA NEWS October – December 2021 Issue 7

SPOTLIGHT

This quarterly spotlight is TASA board member, Cooper Alexander.

Cooper was raised in Vernon and returned home after graduating college. She received her Bachelor's from the University of Texas and a Nonprofit Management Certification from Midwestern State University. She currently works as the Marketing & Program Director for Red River Valley Museum.

In her spare time, Ms. Alexander enjoys theatre, drawing/painting, and caring for her cows and chickens.

When asked why she wanted to be a part of TASA's team, Cooper stated, "I was taught from a young age to stand up for those who needed help. My first real step into social justice work was while in Austin. After moving back, I wanted to broaden my reach beyond my experience with youth education programs. I was delighted when I was approached with the opportunity to join this board. I can't wait to further my support for this organization."



HIGHLIGHTS

* This quarter the Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) reviewed 10 new family violence cases.

* Advocacy and other services were offered to 5 additional victims of domestic violence this quarter.

* December's DVHRT meeting had special guests, Mark Wynn and his film crew. Mr. Wynn is an international expert on family violence. He served 21 years on the Nashville Metropolitan Police Dept. and helped form the largest police domestic violence investigative unit in the U.S. He has received many commendations and awards for his work. Mark is a survivor of family violence from childhood, enabling him to teach both effectively and passionately. There is currently a film being made about his life titled, "This Is The House Where I learned Not to Sleep". Mark spoke with the DVHRT about the importance of having a coordinated community response.

UPCOMING

* TASA has a job opening for a full-time Advocate/Community Educator. For more information, please visit our website.

* Our Battering Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP) will be facilitating a second group beginning January 5th, 2022. This group will be held on Wednesdays from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

* February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM).

* March 2022 TASA will be celebrating "NO MORE Week" No More is a movement to raise public awareness and engage bystanders to bring an end to domestic violence and sexual assault.



TASA Board Members pictured for No More Week 2021

RESOURCES & INFO

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. This annual, month-long push focuses on advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts. Orange is the color to wear to show your support. According to loveisrespect.org, "one in three teens in the US will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they're in a relationship with before they become adults, and nearly half (43%) of college women report experiencing violent or abusive dating behaviors." During this month, TASA's goal is to engage in meaningful conversations with youth in our community about healthy relationships and navigate what may be unhealthy or even abusive.

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